



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
P.O. Box 600
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0600

JON S. CORZINE
Governor

STEPHEN DILTS
Commissioner

May 1, 2009

The Honorable James L. Oberstar
Chairman, House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee
2165 Rayburn Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John L. Mica
Ranking Member, House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee
2163 Rayburn Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Oberstar and Ranking Member Mica:

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) strongly supports the Route 54, Route 322 to Cape May Branch Bridge improvements as a high priority project with \$35 million in the next surface transportation authorization bill. Funding this project will improve traffic movement in Atlantic County.

The funding will rehabilitate the Route 54 structure over Route 322, replace the bridge over the Cape May Point Branch and rehabilitate a third structure over Route 322. Although NJDOT has focused on meeting the bridge repair, maintenance, rehabilitation and replacement needs, it continues to need funding to clear its backlog of needed bridge work. These improvements will significantly improve traffic for local residents, commuters, emergency responders and trucks.

The project is in the Fiscal Year 2009-2018 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) under the FY 2009-2010 NJTPA Study & Development Program. Prior to Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) approval of the STIP, there is a public comment period. The HPP funds would fund over 80% of the project.

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Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or for additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'S' followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Stephen Dilts
Commissioner

cc: The Honorable Frank LoBiondo